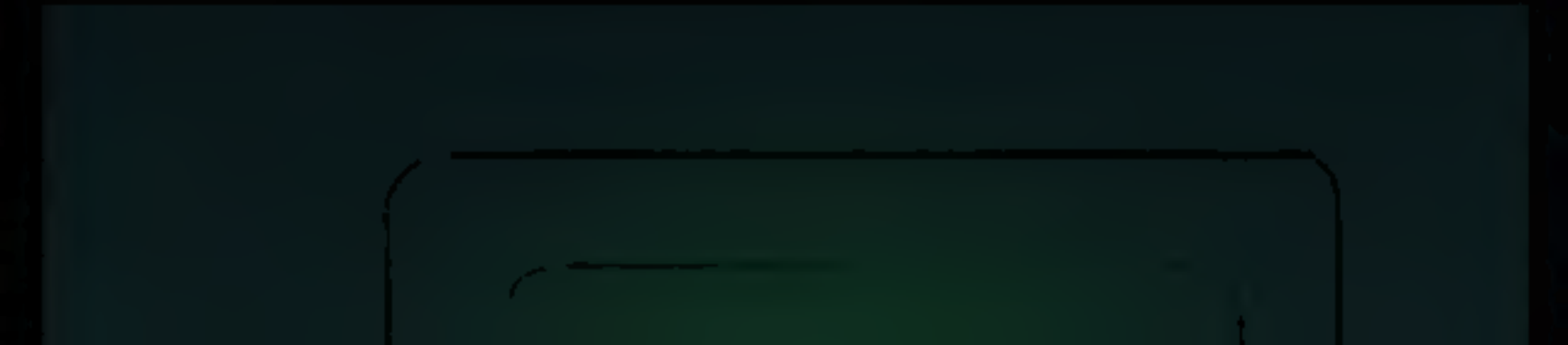
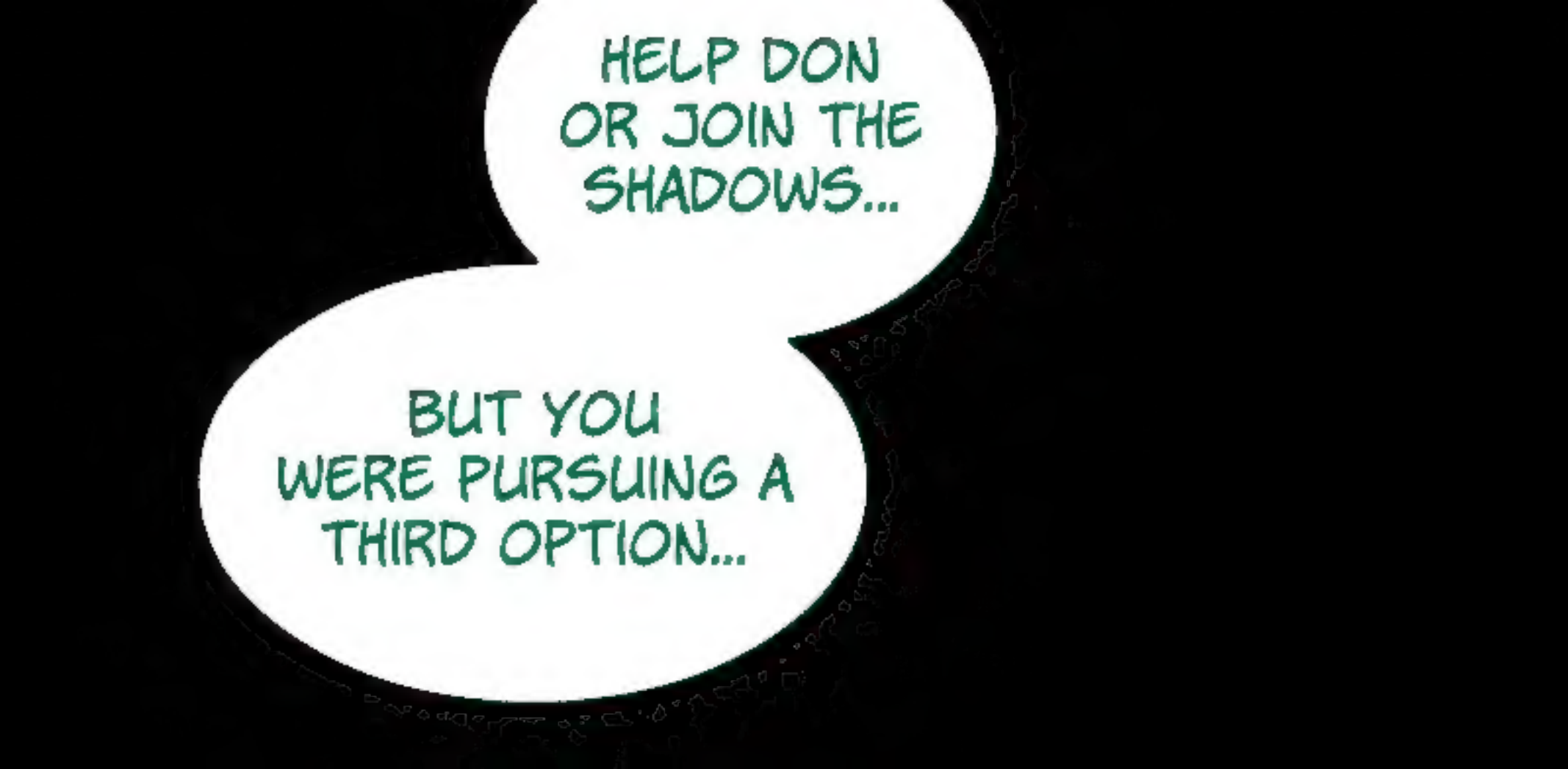
THERE'S
JUST ONE MORE
BEACON TO
LIGHT.



AND
THEN WHAT
HAPPENS?

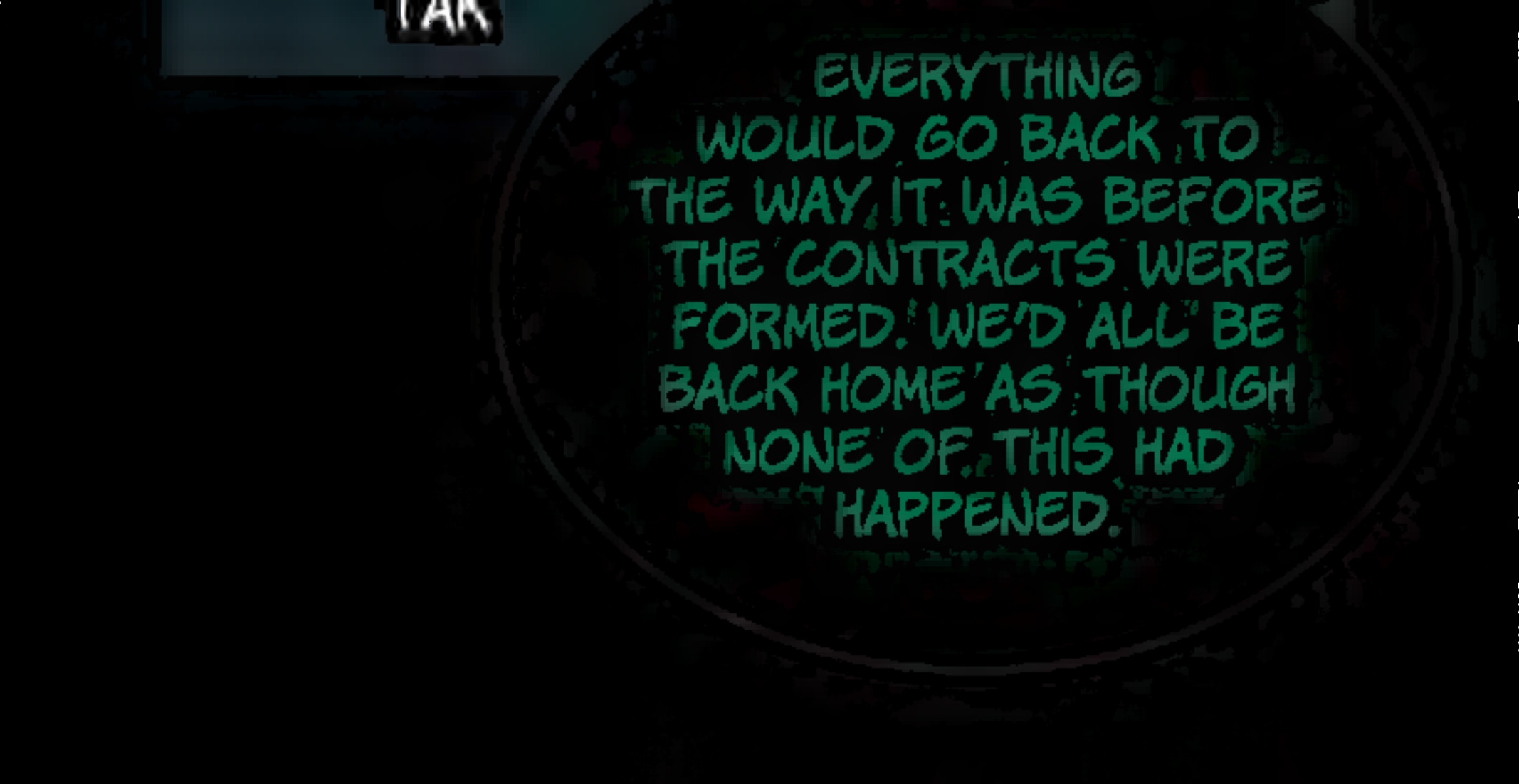
WHATEVER YOU THINK IS RIGHT.

AT FIRST
I THOUGHT THERE
WERE ONLY TWO
CHOICES...


HELP DON OR JOIN THE SHADOWS...
BUT YOU WERE PURSUING A THIRD OPTION...

THE LOOPHOLE THAT ALASTAIR MENTIONED.
TAK

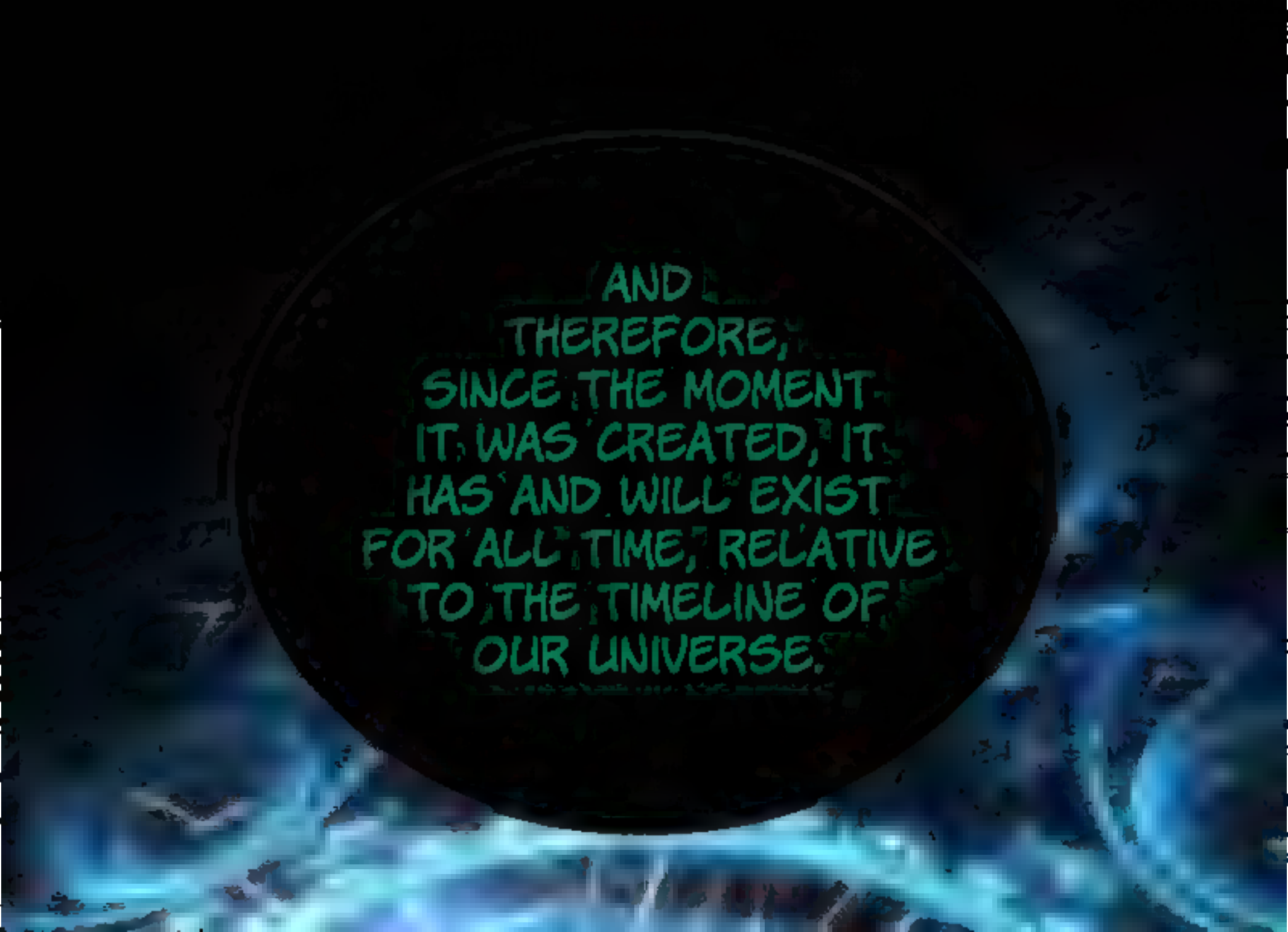
TAK
TAK
TAK
DESTROYING THE ROOM OF SWORDS.


FAR
EVERYTHING WOULD GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE THE CONTRACTS WERE FORMED. WE'D ALL BE BACK HOME AS THOUGH NONE OF THIS HAD HAPPENED.

HOW
DOES THAT
WORK?

WORK?

THE ROOM OF SWORDS EXISTS IN A DIMENSION OUTSIDE OF THE TIME AND SPACE THAT WE COME FROM.


AND
THEREFORE,
SINCE THE MOMENT
IT WAS CREATED, IT
HAS AND WILL EXIST
FOR ALL TIME, RELATIVE
TO THE TIMELINE OF
OUR UNIVERSE.

HOWEVER, IF YOU WERE TO DESTROY IT...

IT WOULD NEVER HAVE EXISTED!

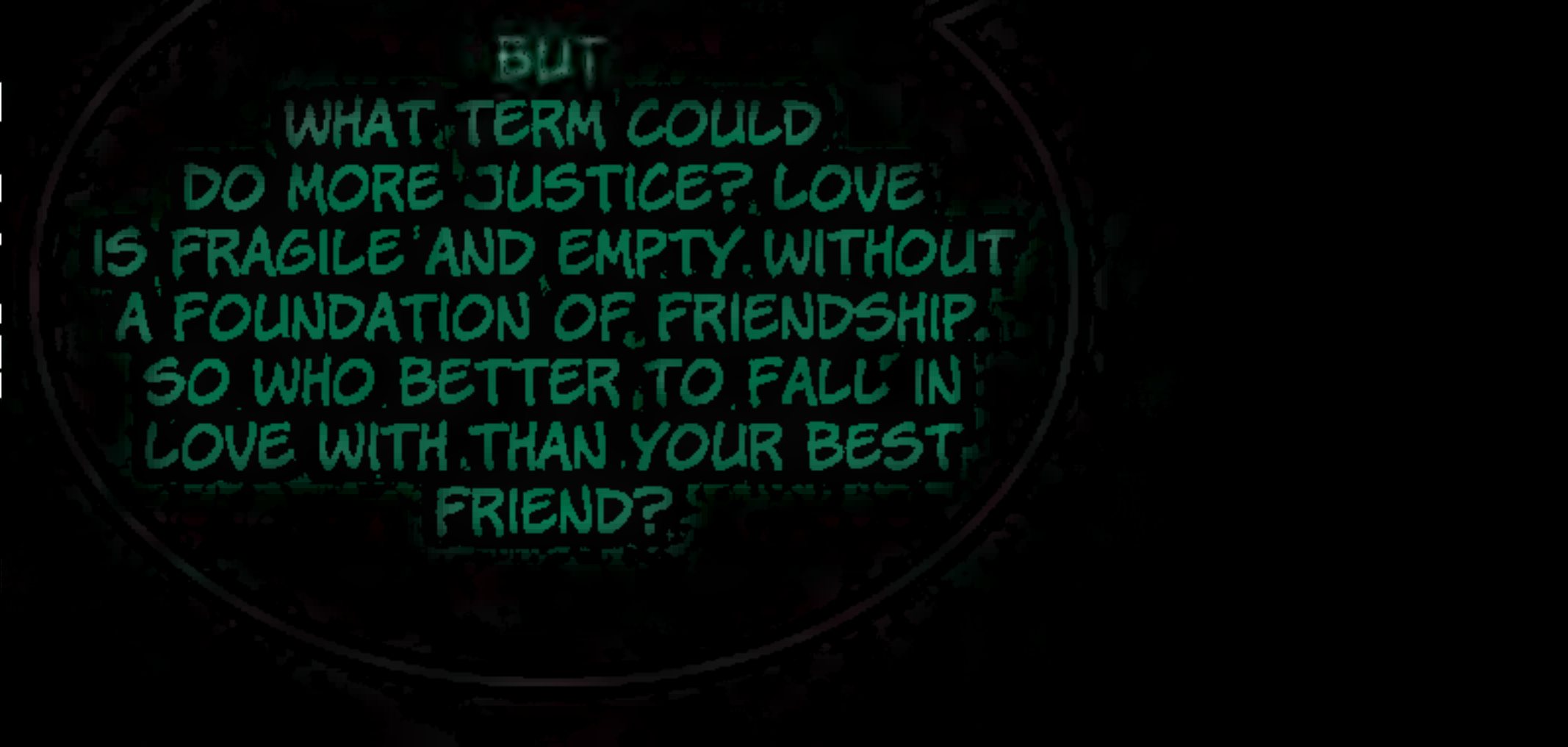
EXACTLY.

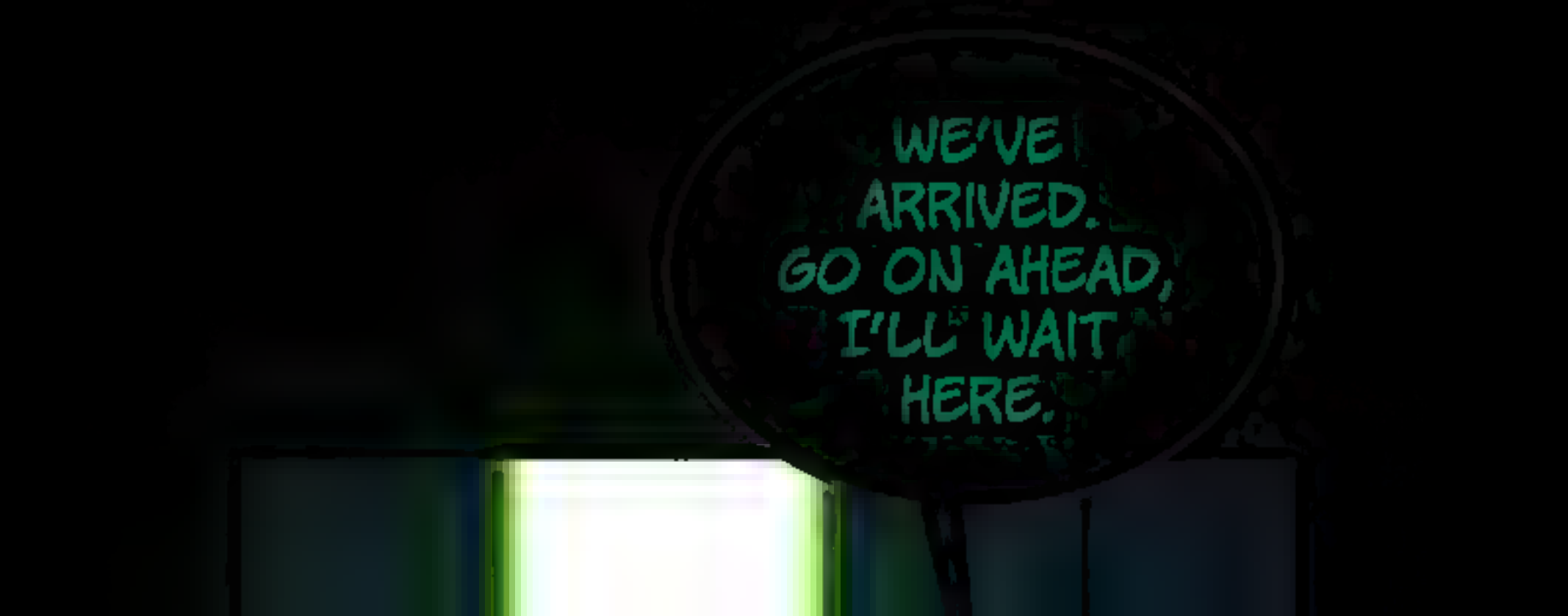
...DOES KODYA KNOW?
I THOUGHT WE... I MEAN, YOU AND HE WERE... UH--

BEST
FRIENDS?

OH...
IT... KINDA
SEEMED LIKE
MORE THAN
THAT...

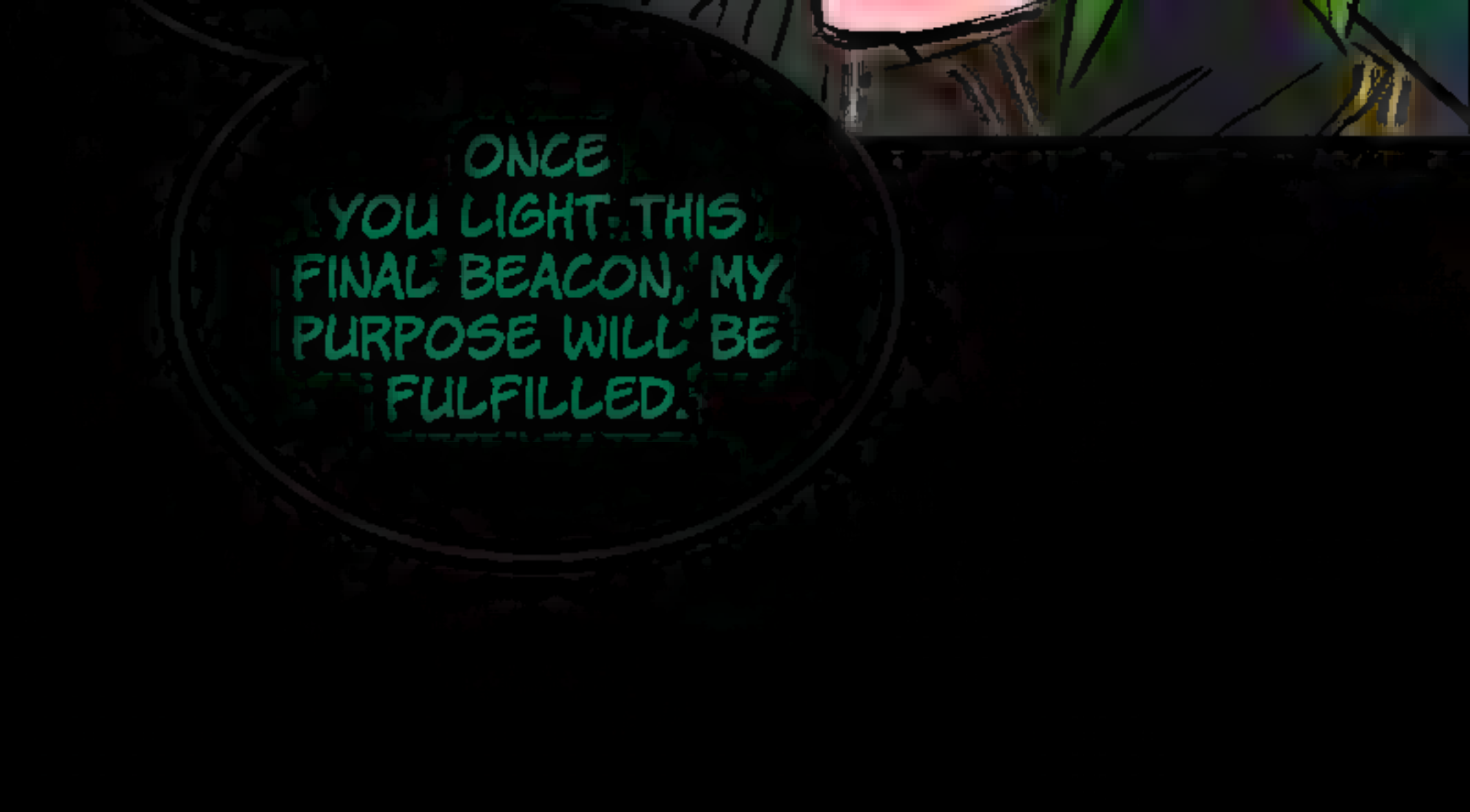
DON'T SOUND SO DISAPPOINTED. OF COURSE IT WAS MORE.


BUT
WHAT TERM COULD DO MORE JUSTICE? LOVE IS FRAGILE AND EMPTY WITHOUT A FOUNDATION OF FRIENDSHIP. SO WHO BETTER TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THAN YOUR BEST FRIEND?


WE'VE ARRIVED. GO ON AHEAD, I'LL WAIT HERE.

ARE
YOU GOING
TO BE ALRIGHT?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...

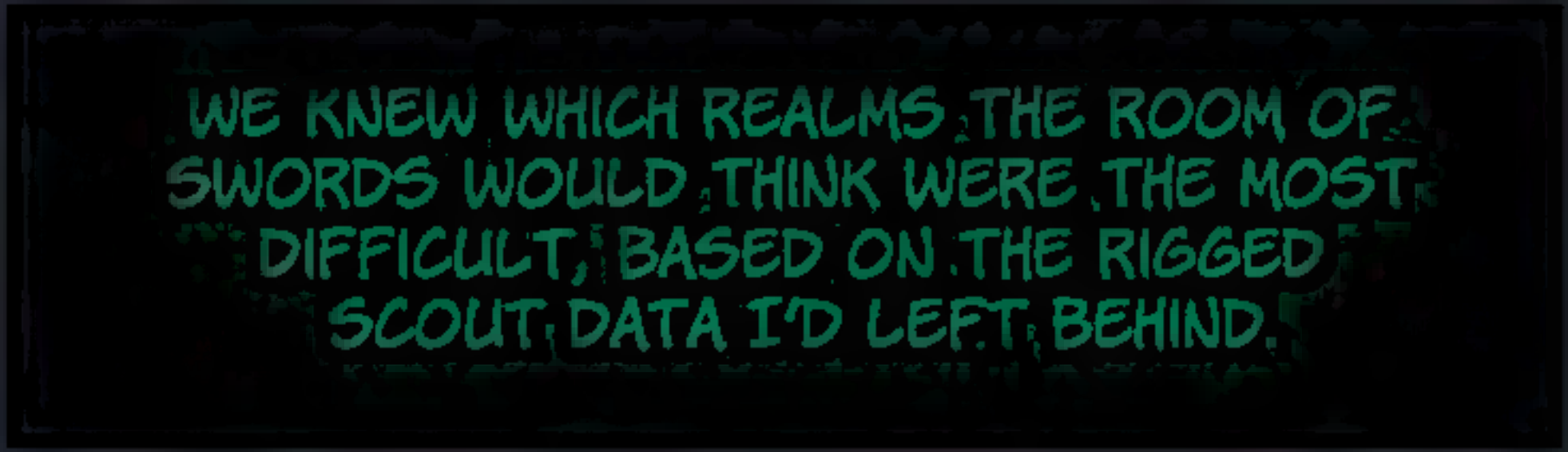

ONCE YOU LIGHT THIS FINAL BEACON, MY PURPOSE WILL BE FULFILLED.

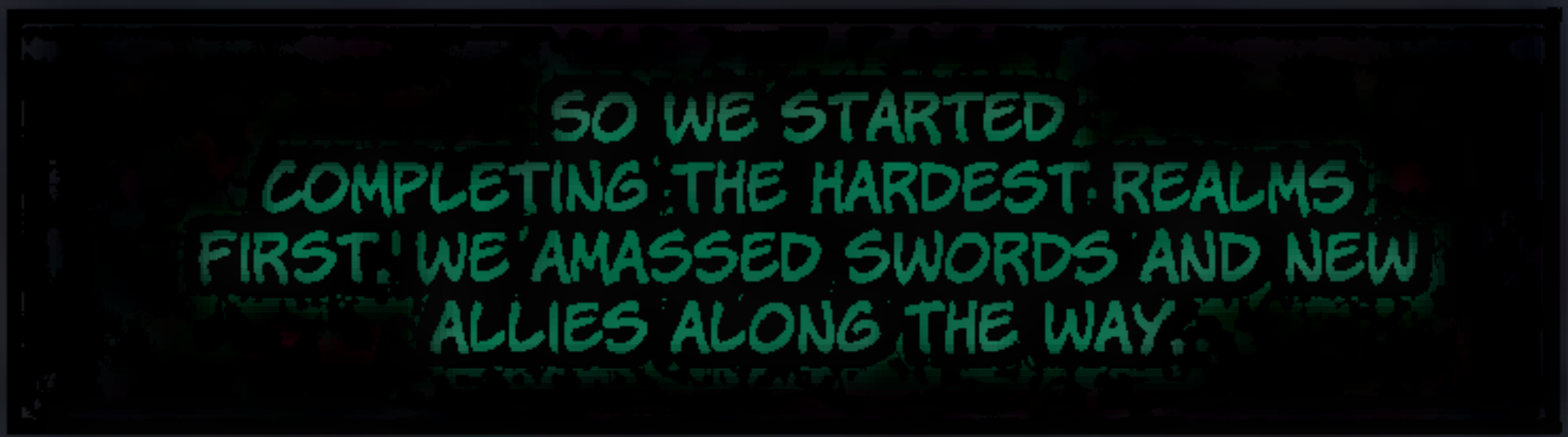
THE BLACK BOX WILL BE YOURS.

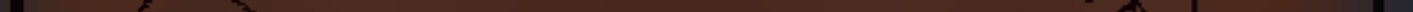
STORY/ART: TOONIMATED

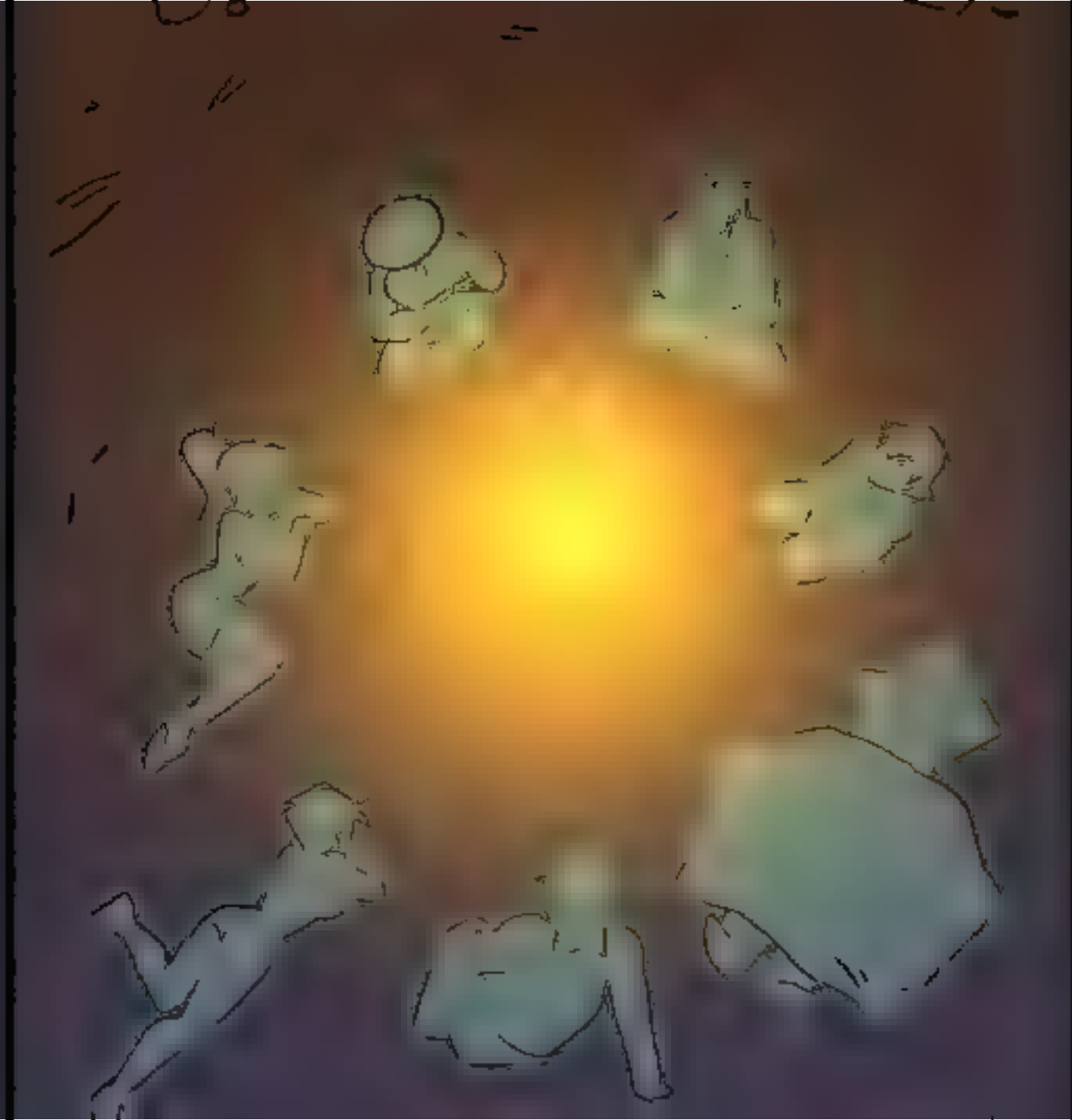
CHAPTER 107

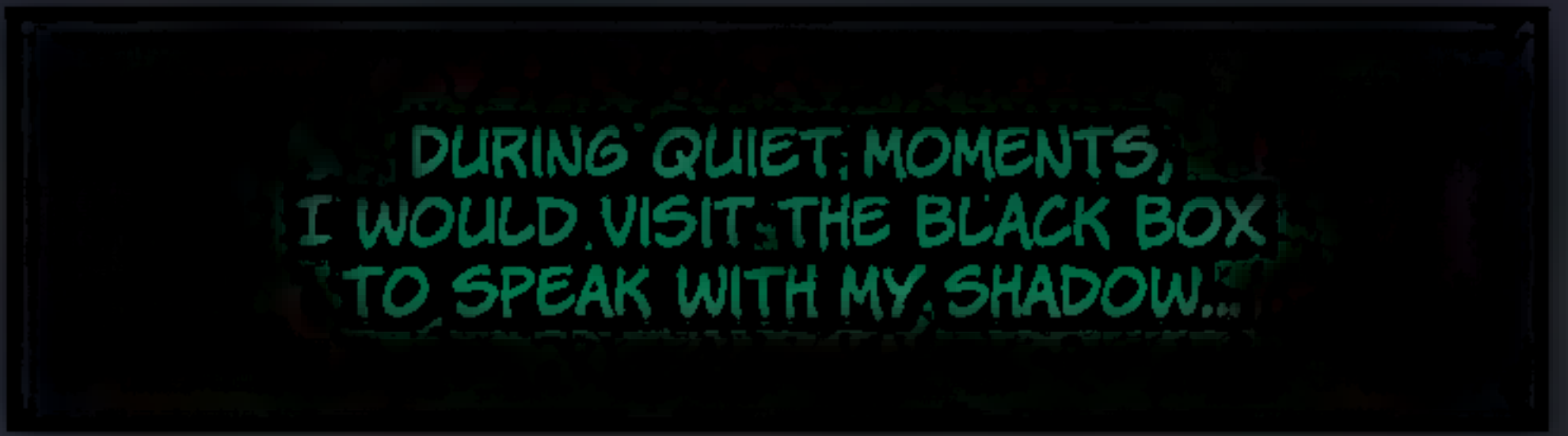
"WHEN WE WERE GODS"


WE KNEW WHICH REALMS THE ROOM OF SWORDS WOULD THINK WERE THE MOST DIFFICULT, BASED ON THE RIGGED SCOUT DATA I'D LEFT BEHIND.


SO WE STARTED COMPLETING THE HARDEST REALMS FIRST. WE AMASSED SWORDS AND NEW ALLIES ALONG THE WAY.





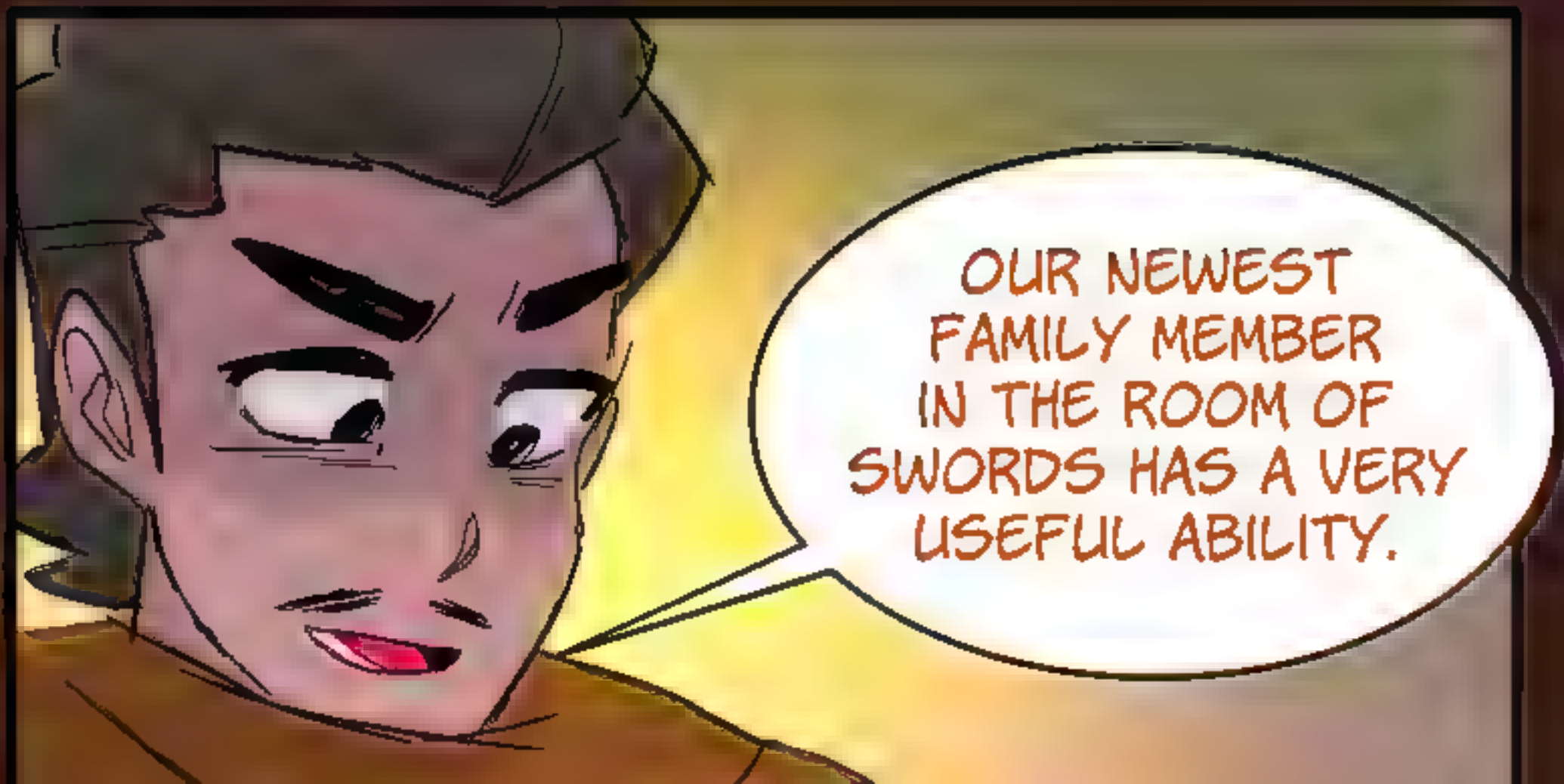

DURING QUIET MOMENTS,
I WOULD VISIT THE BLACK BOX
TO SPEAK WITH MY SHADOW...

BUT, THIS TIME
WAS DIFFERENT.

HOLA,
AMIGO.

GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

DON...
WHAT IS
THIS?


OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBER IN THE ROOM OF SWORDS HAS A VERY USEFUL ABILITY.

HE CAN STITCH TWO PEOPLE'S DREAMS TOGETHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNICATING ACROSS ANY DISTANCE.

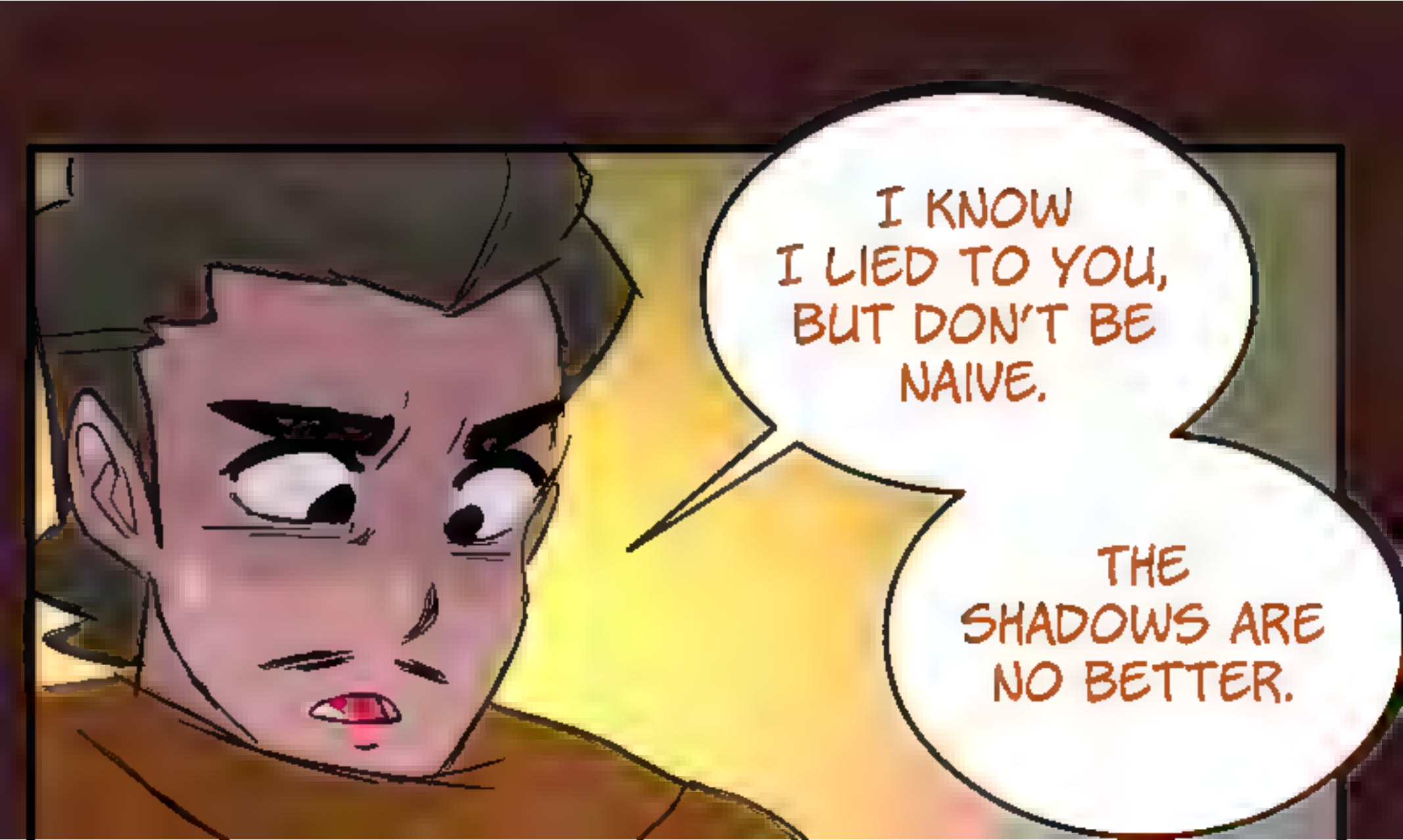
WELL
I'M SORRY TO
TELL YOU, BUT
I'M COMPLETELY
LUCID.

I CAN LEAVE THIS "DREAM" ANY TIME, SO I GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE.

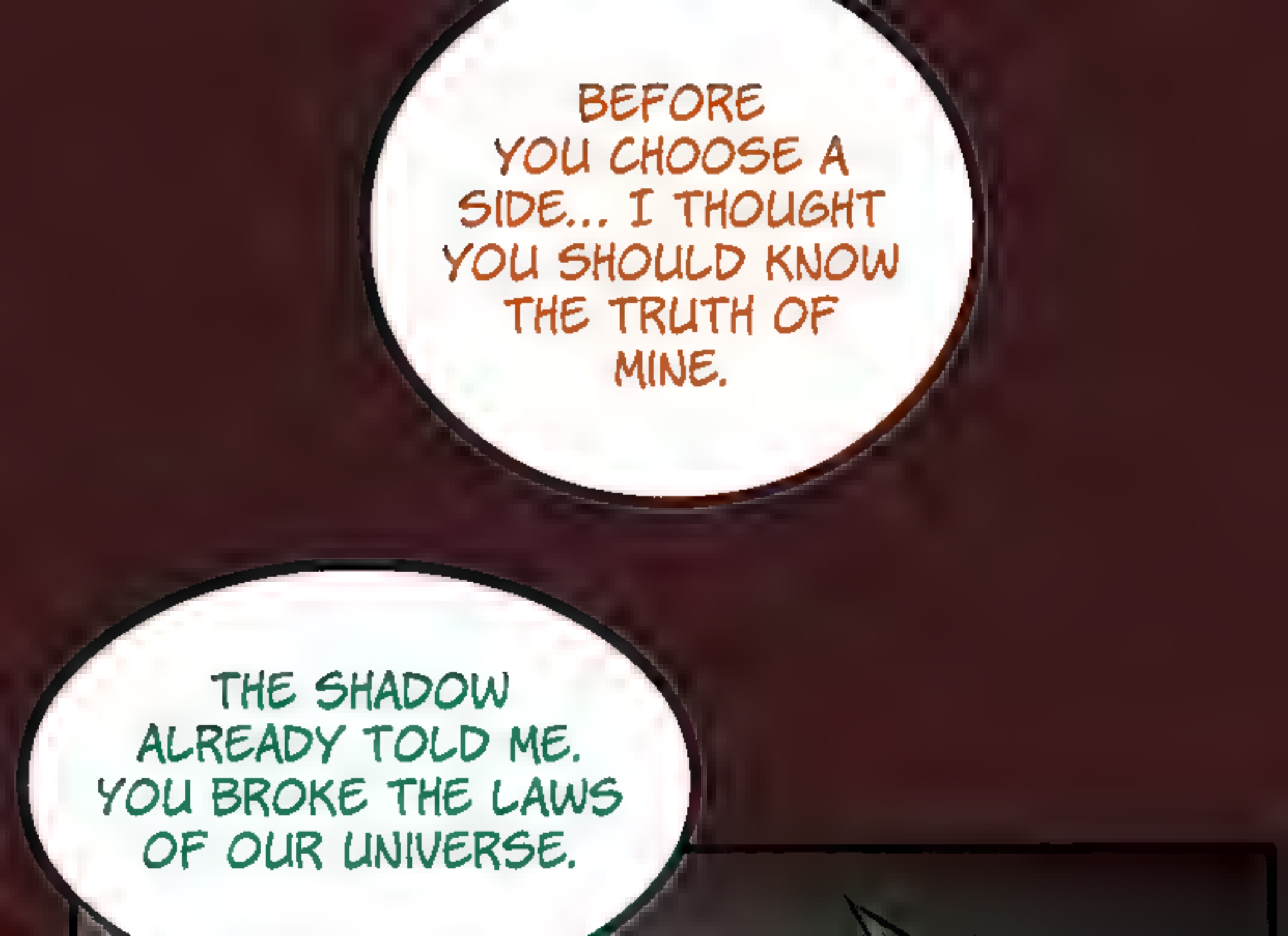
WAIT, JUST HEAR ME OUT!

I'VE COME TO EXPLAIN MY SIDE OF THE STORY.

JUST ANOTHER MANIPULATION TACTIC.
SAVE THE PITY PARTY FOR SOMEONE WHO CARES.


I KNOW
I LIED TO YOU,
BUT DON'T BE
NAIVE.
THE
SHADOWS ARE
NO BETTER.

I KNOW
YOU'RE COLLECTING
SWORDS ON
YOUR OWN...


BEFORE YOU CHOOSE A SIDE... I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THE TRUTH OF MINE.
THE SHADOW ALREADY TOLD ME. YOU BROKE THE LAWS OF OUR UNIVERSE.

LETTING YOU GO FREE WOULD BRING ABOUT THE END OF REALITY AS WE KNOW IT.

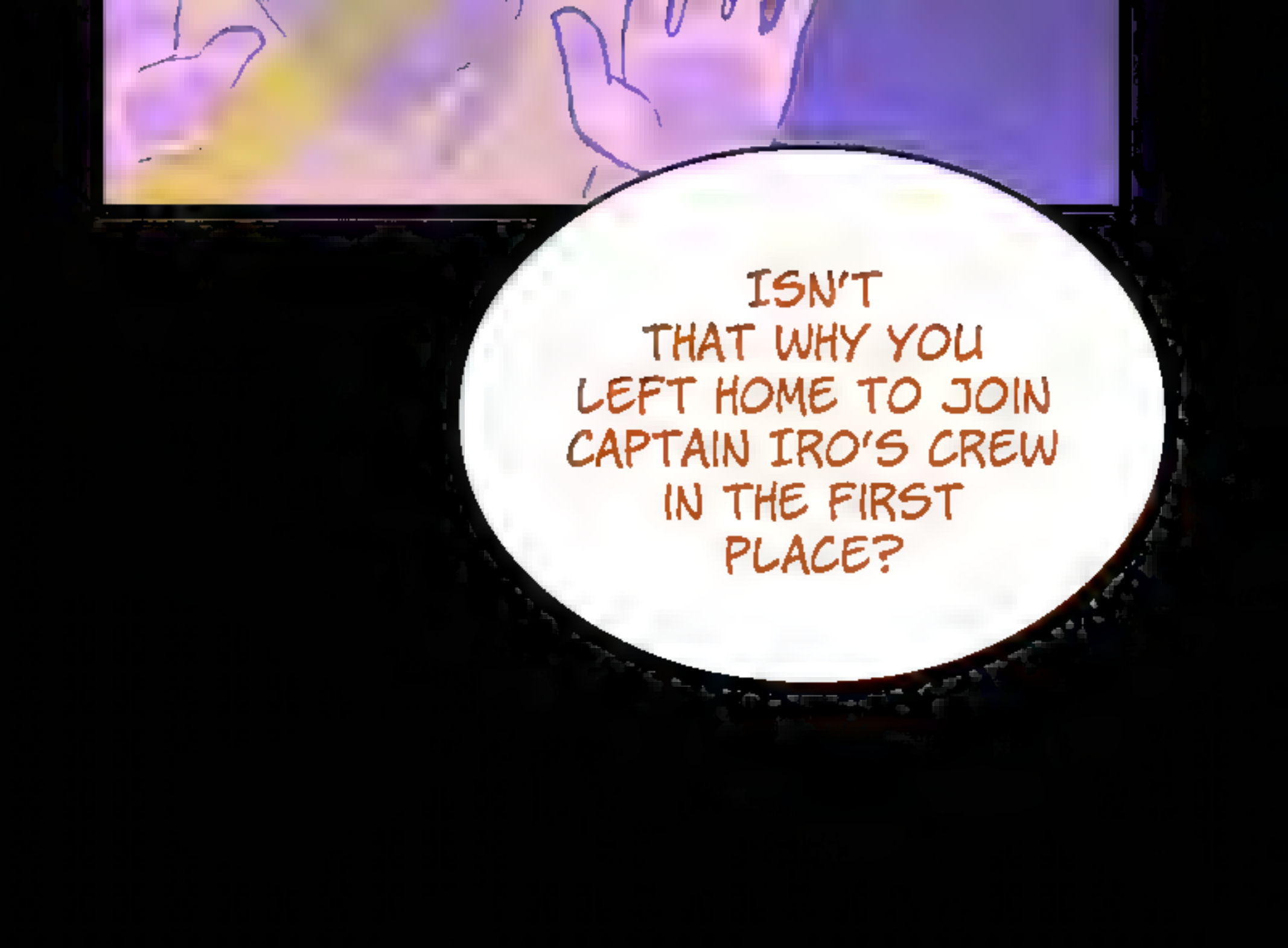
AND
WHAT'S SO GREAT
ABOUT REALITY AS
YOU KNOW IT?

YOU REMEMBER HOW MUCH REALITY HAD DETERIORATED, DON'T YOU?

YOU TOLD ME THAT BY YOUR LIFETIME, CATASTROPHIC ANOMALIES WERE COMMONPLACE...

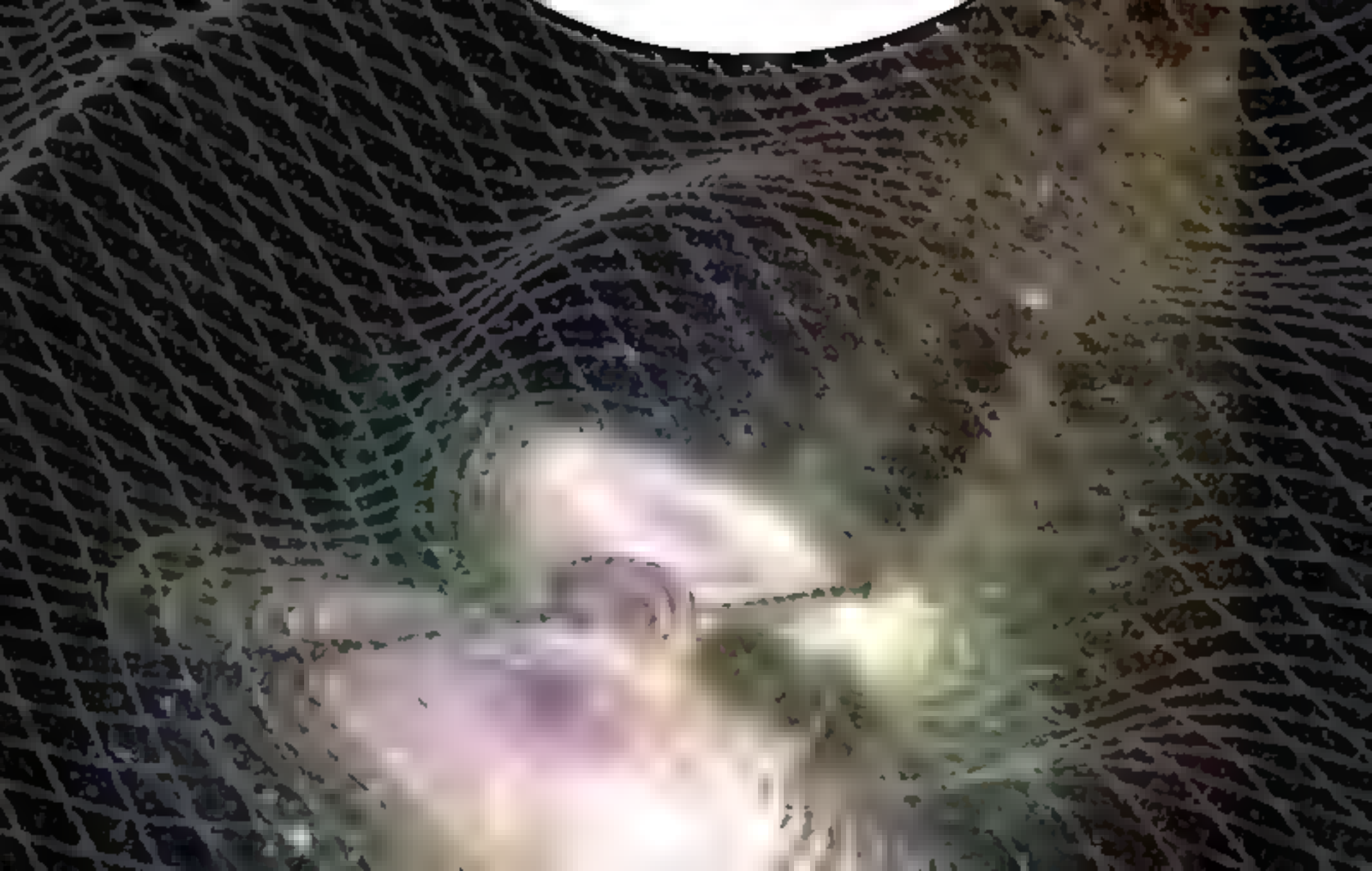
WHOLE WORLDS DESTROYED WITHOUT WARNING, AND YOU EXPERIENCED IT FIRST HAND...

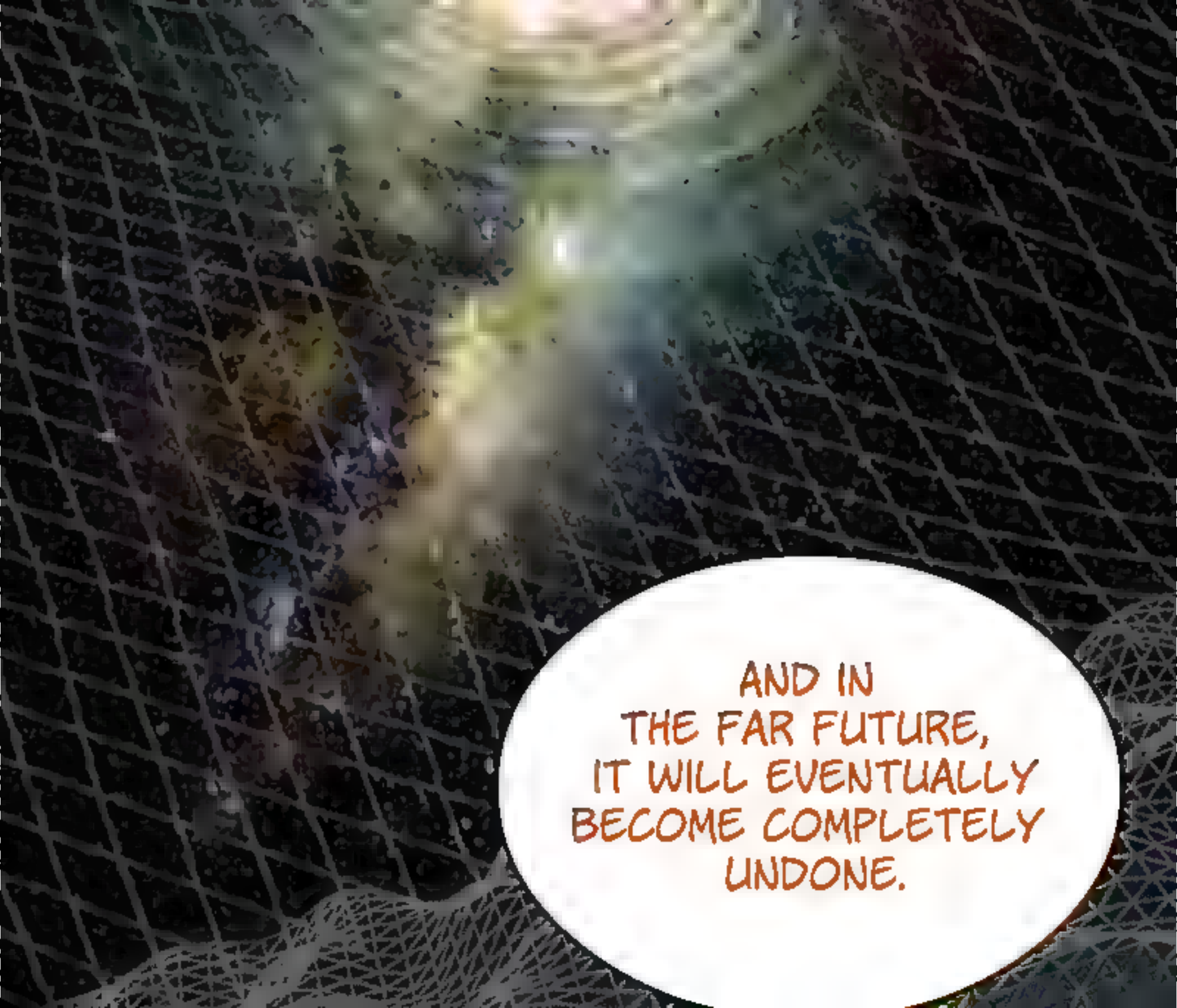
YOU
WERE LUCKY
ENOUGH TO HAVE KIND
RELATIVES TO TAKE YOU IN
AND GIVE YOU A LIFE OF
COMFORT, BUT YOU COULD
NEVER STOP WONDERING
WHY IT ALL HAPPENED.

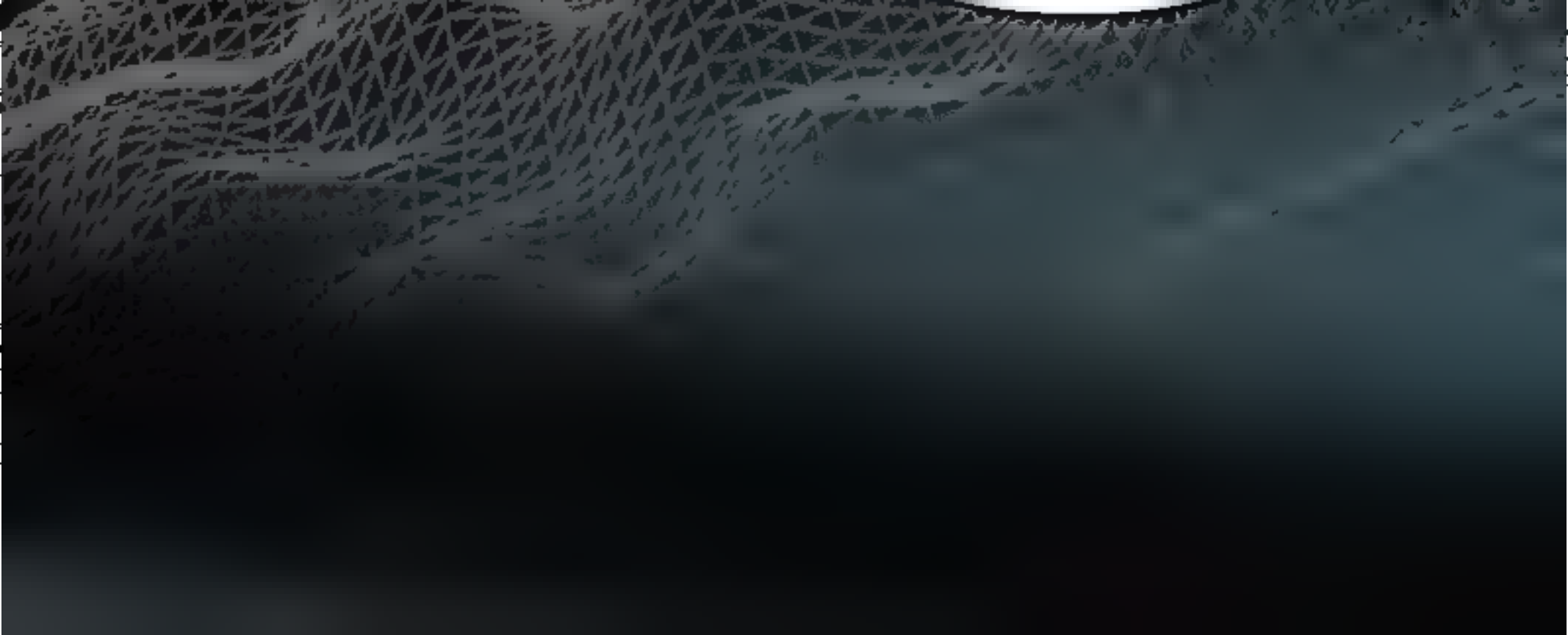

ISN'T
THAT WHY YOU
LEFT HOME TO JOIN
CAPTAIN IRO'S CREW
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?

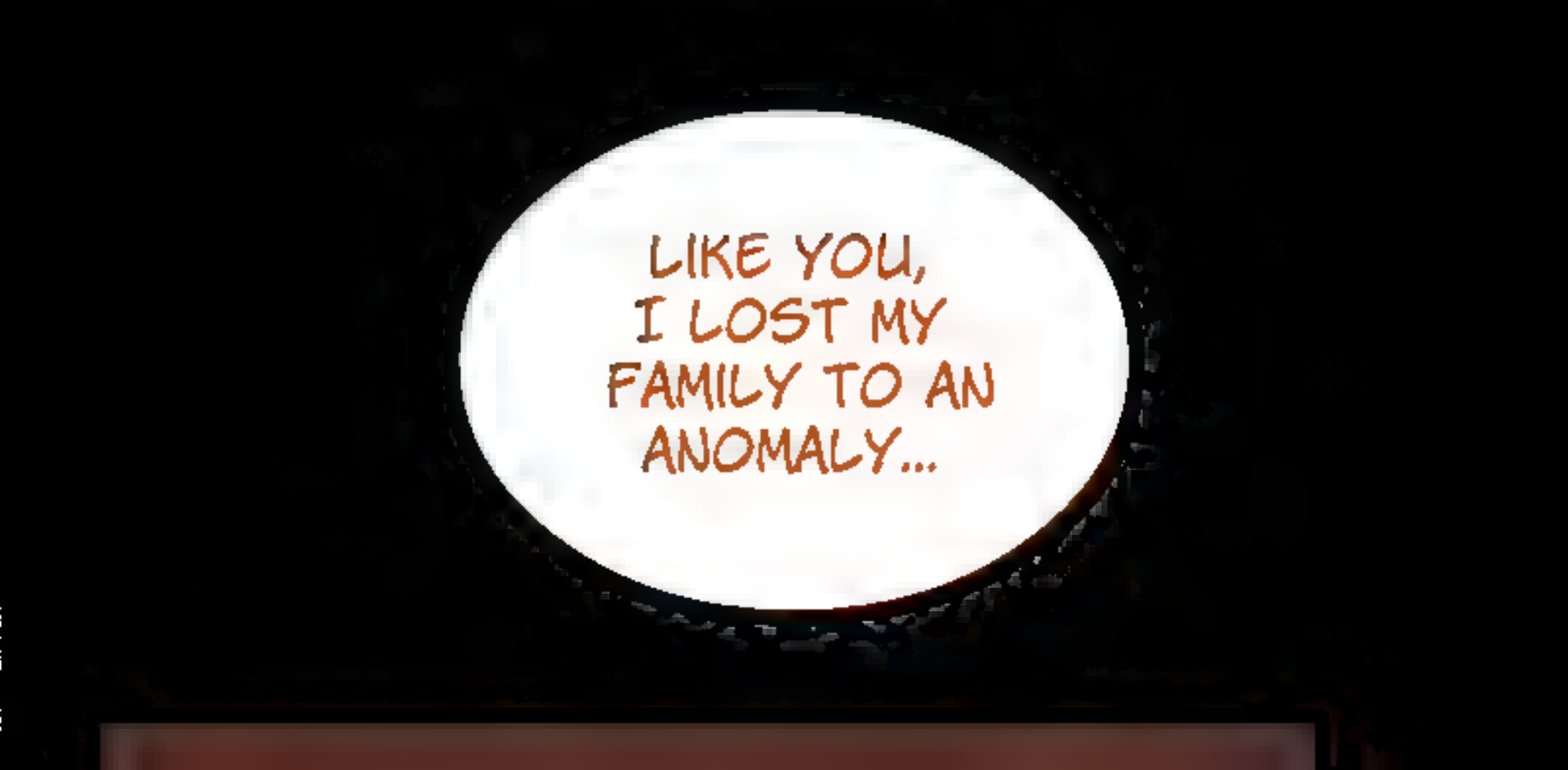
I'LL
TELL YOU WHY IT
HAPPENED...

A THREAD
IN THE FABRIC OF
TIME AND SPACE WAS
PULLED EONS AGO, AND
EVER SINCE THEN, REALITY
HAS BEEN UNRAVELLING
AROUND IT.

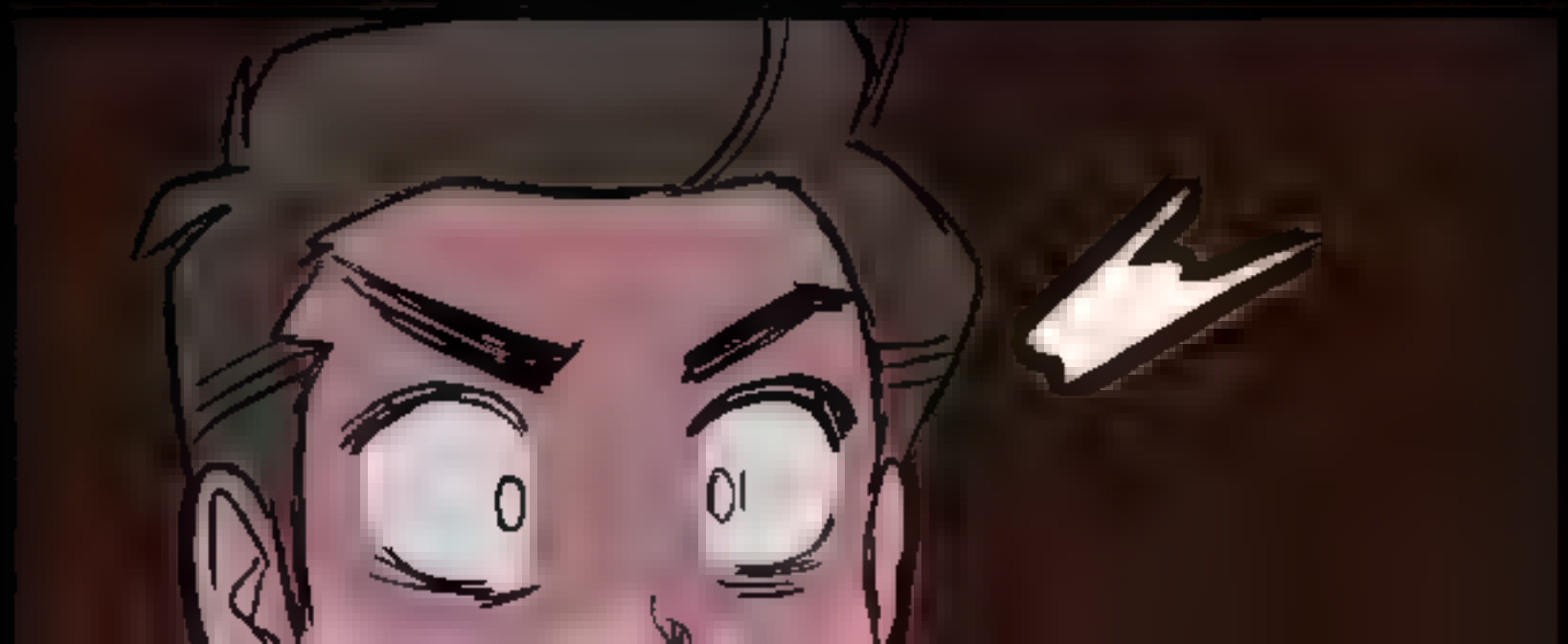



AND IN
THE FAR FUTURE,
IT WILL EVENTUALLY
BECOME COMPLETELY
UNDONE.




LIKE YOU,
I LOST MY
FAMILY TO AN
ANOMALY...

PAPA'S HOME!



GASP!

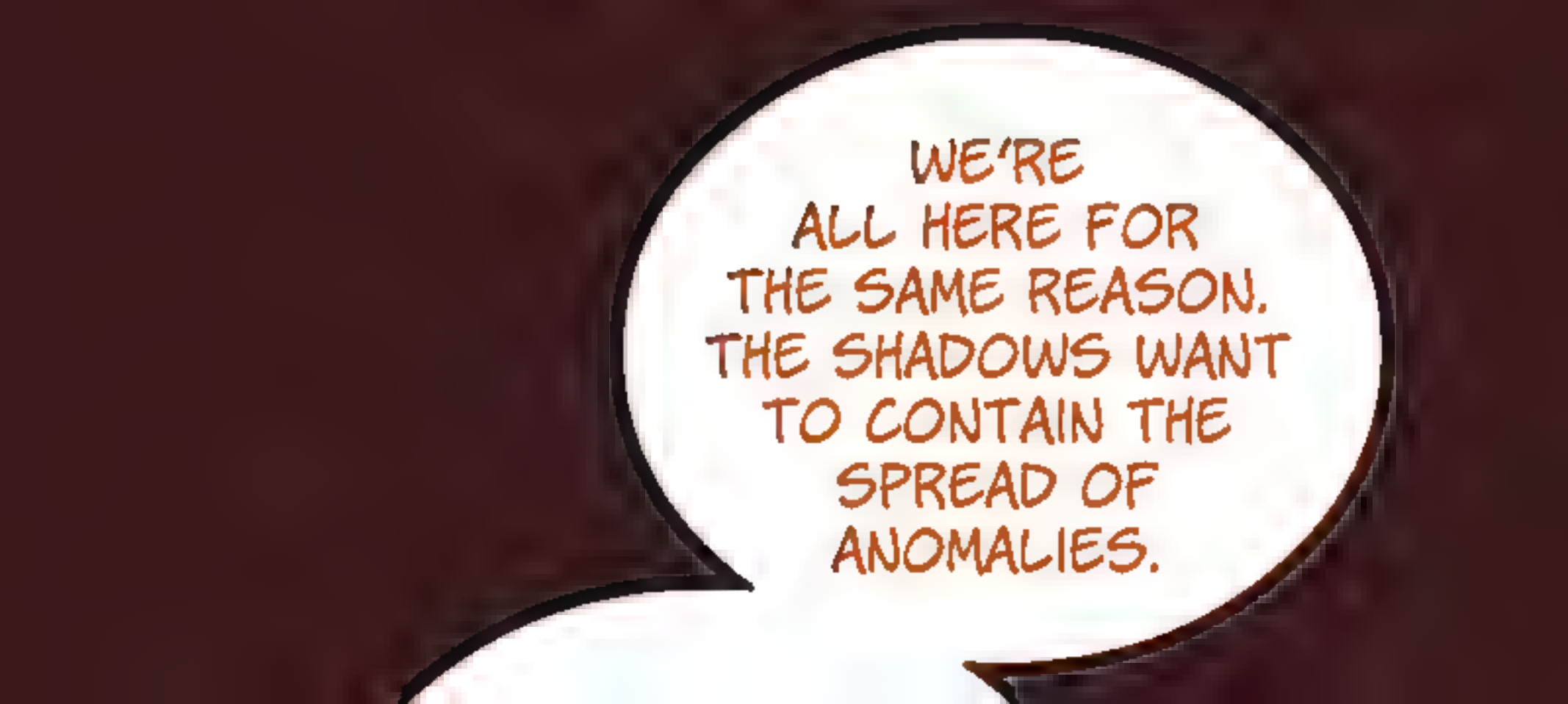
MUTATED CREATURES SPAWNED NEAR OUR HOME AND SLAUGHTERED THEM.

BUT I
HAD DISCOVERED
A SECRET...

I TOO
WAS AN
ANOMALY.

AND
I COULD
REWRITE WHAT
HAD BEEN
DONE.

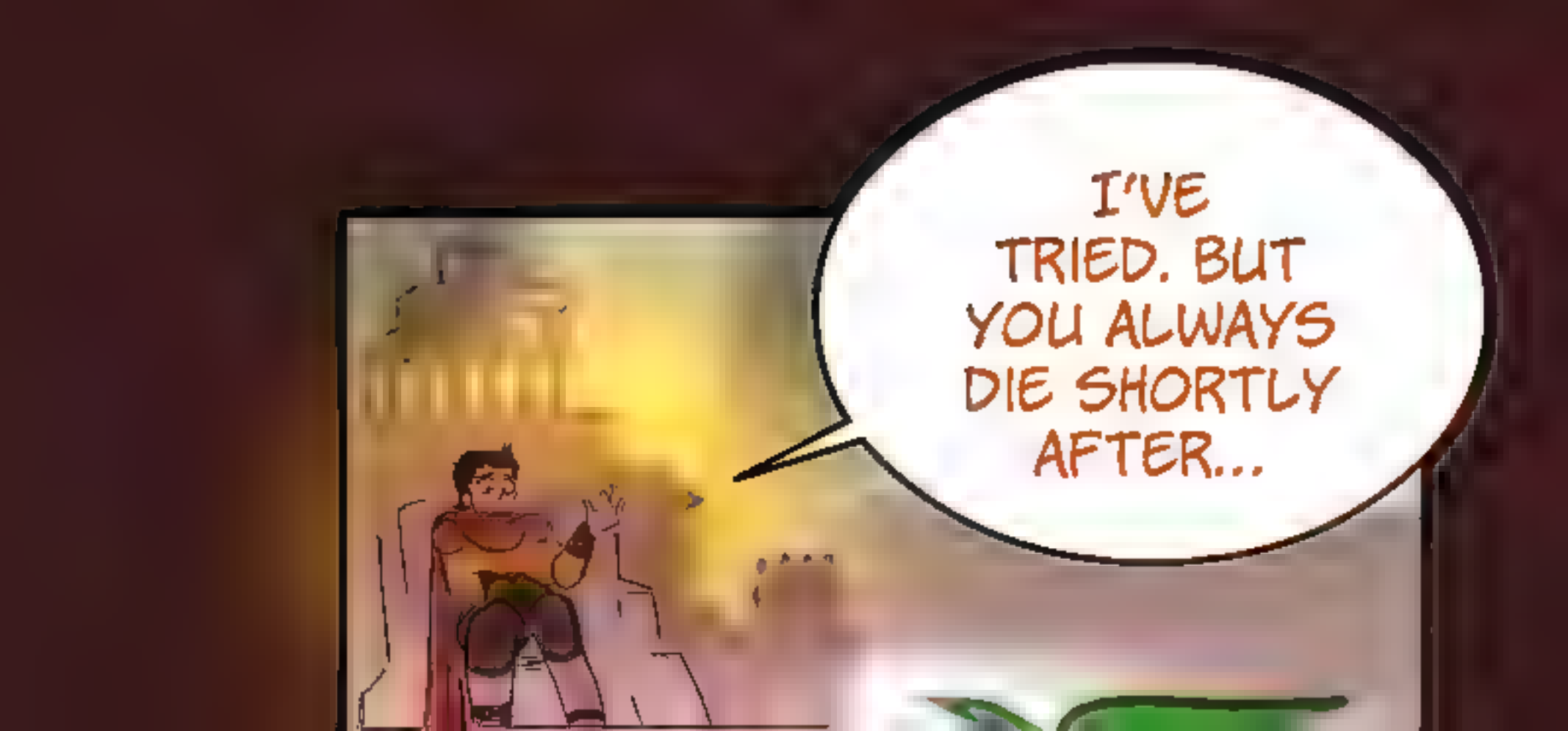
I FIXED THE STORY. THE WAY IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN.
AND FOR THAT, I WAS DISCOVERED... AND CONTAINED.


WE'RE ALL HERE FOR THE SAME REASON. THE SHADOWS WANT TO CONTAIN THE SPREAD OF ANOMALIES.

BUT THEY'RE NOT DISCERNING BEINGS... THEY SEE THINGS IN BLACK AND WHITE.

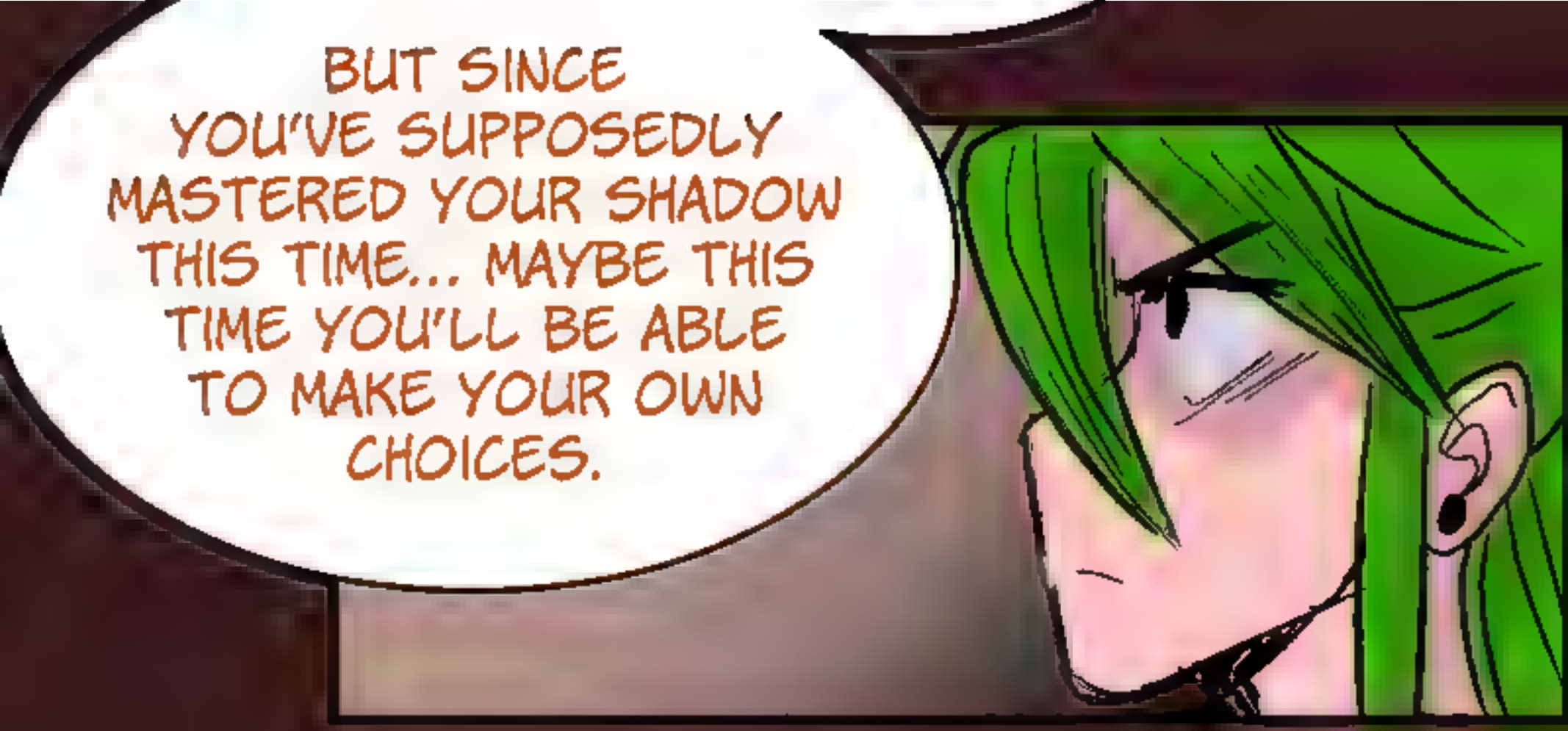
YOU AND I ON THE OTHER HAND, WE KNOW NOT ALL ANOMALIES ARE BAD: JUST IMAGINE HAVING HEART BEETS ON EARTH! HOW MANY LIVES COULD BE SAVED!
WHEN I'M FREE, I'LL SELECTIVELY DEAL WITH EACH ANOMALY. I'LL MAKE LIFE A PARADISE FOR ALL OF US.

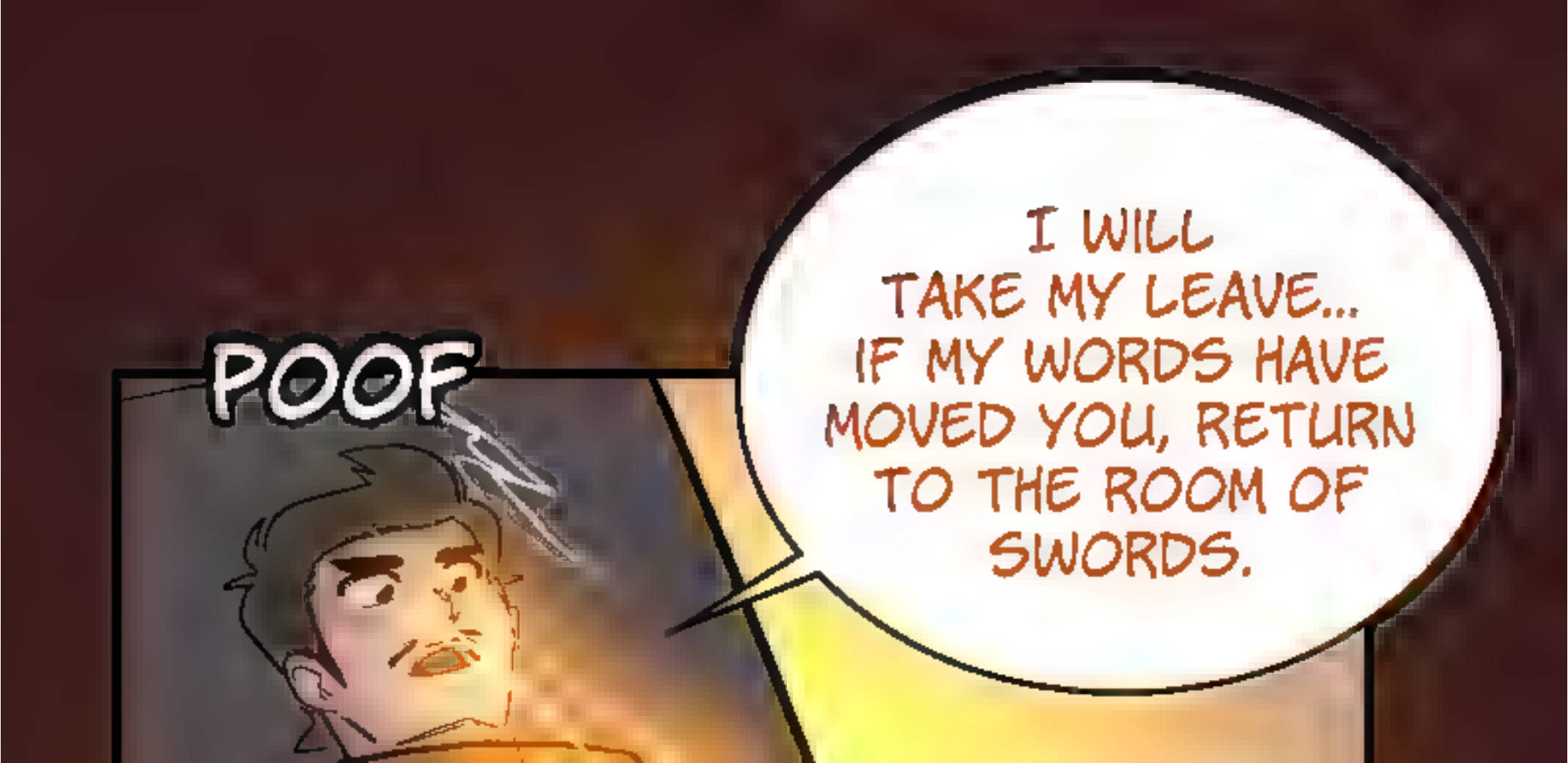
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO PLAY GOD... WHY HAVE YOU NEVER MENTIONED THIS BEFORE?

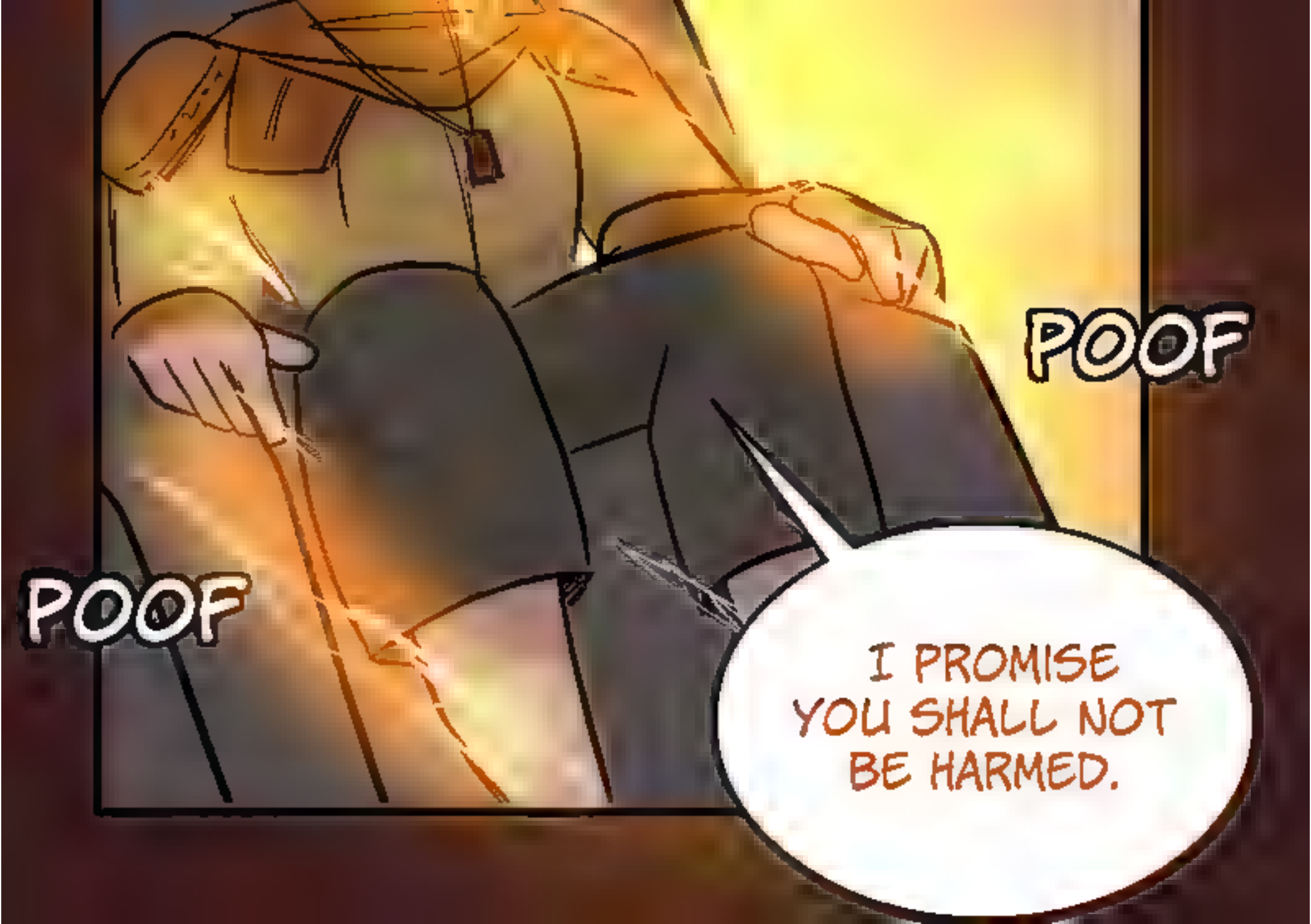

I'VE TRIED. BUT YOU ALWAYS DIE SHORTLY AFTER...

I KNOW YOU'VE LEARNED THAT YOU AND I HAVE MET BEFORE, IN YOUR PREVIOUS ITERATIONS.

BUT DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE I'VE BEEN THE ONLY ONE BEHIND YOUR DEMISE EVERY TIME?
THE SHADOWS DON'T WANT YOU TO KNOW THE WHOLE STORY EITHER.


BUT SINCE YOU'VE SUPPOSEDLY MASTERED YOUR SHADOW THIS TIME... MAYBE THIS TIME YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES.


I WILL TAKE MY LEAVE... IF MY WORDS HAVE MOVED YOU, RETURN TO THE ROOM OF SWORDS.
POOF


POOF
POOF
I PROMISE YOU SHALL NOT BE HARMED.

POOF

POOF
THE FLOOR! IT'S DISAPPEARING!
POOF

WHAM!
OOH!!

GYRUS? ARE YOU OKAY?

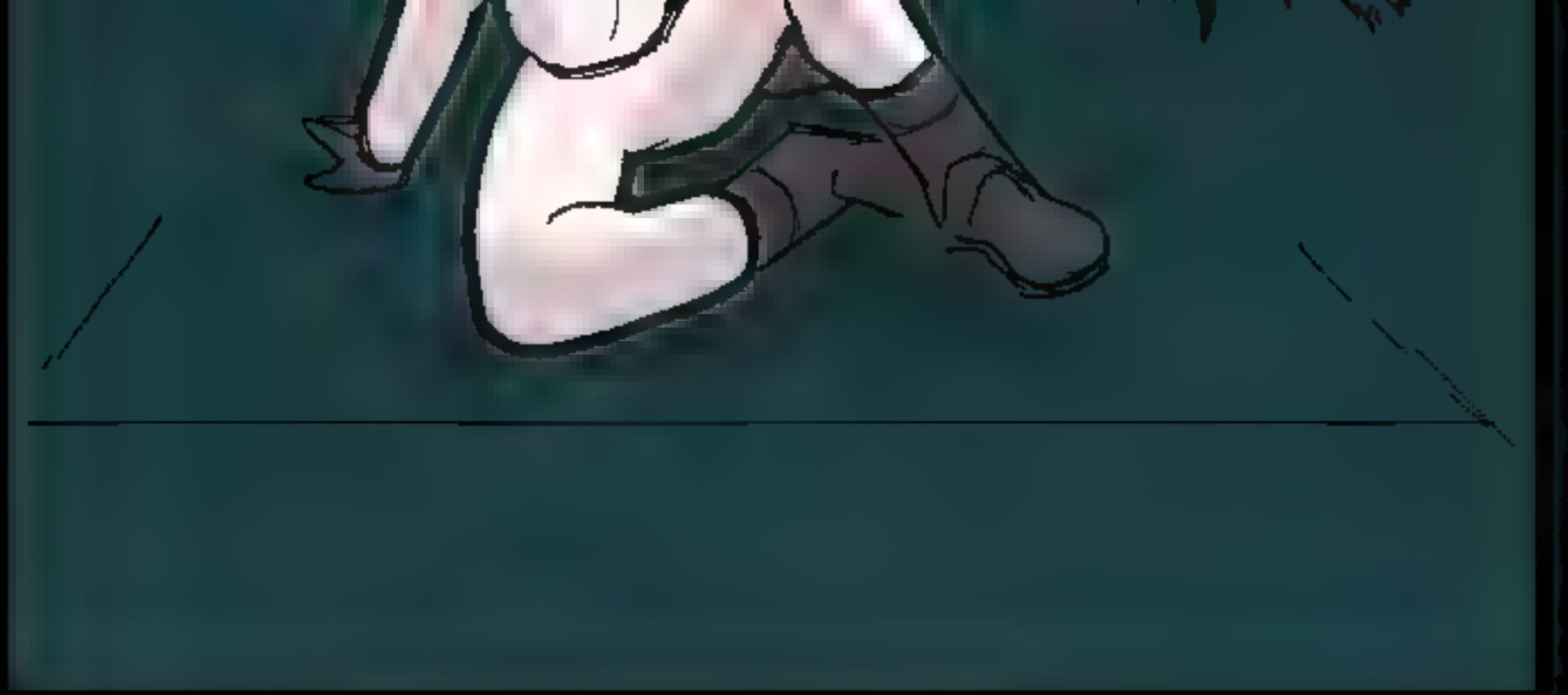
ALASTAIR...

OZZT
OZZT
I...
I SPOKE
WITH DON.
HE--

ALASTAIR!!
BLIP

I'M
BACK IN THE
BLACK BOX...

BUT THERE WAS NO BEACON.
THE MEMORY WAS CUT OFF...



I BETTER GO CHECK WITH MY OTHER SELF...

MAYBE HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO.

GASP!

JUST
HIS CAPE IS
HERE WHERE
I LEFT HIM...

IS THAT WHY THE MEMORY STOPPED? IS HE.. GONE?

NO...
HIS FOOTPRINTS LEAD AWAY FROM HERE...!

BUT HE COULD BARELY WALK...!
TAK
TAK

SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG.

SOMETHING BURNED STRAIGHT THROUGH THE WALLS HERE...

THE SHADOW... HE MUST HAVE TRIED TO FIGHT IT...!

THIS IS
MY FAULT...

I TOOK
TOO LONG
TO FIND MYSELF
BEFORE...

BUT I'M FINALLY READY TO LISTEN...
WOOSH

TAK
TAK

SO PLEASE DON'T BE GONE YET.

ROOM of
SWORDS

@ROOMOFSWORDS

@ROOMOFSWORDS

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TOONIMATED.COM

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THE CHAPTER!
AND PLEASE RATE ★ US IF YOU HAVEN'T!